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is not law, and he expressly disclaims for it the description of political economy. On the contrary, he declares, it is a discussion of *facts*, though the "facts" presented consist almost entirely of the opinions and theories of a singularly optimistic corporation lawyer as to the beneficent character of commercial combinations and the futility of all attempts to supervise and regulate them.

The statement that the argument was delivered by the author, not in a "Current Topics" course before a woman's club, but before the Industrial Commission, which, under the authority of Congress, sat at Washington during the year 1899, raises a mild and somewhat belated curiosity as to the functions of that distinguished body. For Mr. Dos Passos' very elementary exposition can hardly have contributed materially to the enlightenment of men of affairs, engaged for months in sifting the commercial conditions of the United States and Europe. But the little work is not without merit as a popular, though one-sided, presentation of the Trust question to such as are not equal to the discussions of that question by Professor Clark and President Hadley. From this point of view it is hardly worth while to quarrel with our author's curiously inadequate and misleading treatment of the Statute of Monopolies of 21 James (p. 81), and his condensation of the whole of Professor Jenks' argument against Trusts and his own answers thereto into a foot-note (pp. 102-105).

A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF DAMAGES FOR PERSONAL INJURIES. By ARCHIBALD ROBINSON WATSON. The Michie Company. Charlottesville, Va. 1901. pp. lxxiii, 944.

Without doubt, the first criticism to be made of this book, and one sure to be made by every reader, is called out by the offensive head line at the top of each left-hand page "Wat. Pers. Inj." Think of such a head line assailing the eye of the learned reader, or of the gentle reader, or even of the reader who is not entitled to an epithet of any kind—of assailing the eye four hundred and forty-four times; for that number of times is the offense repeated! If a line of abbreviations was really necessary, why was it not made picturesque, as "Wat. O. Dam." or "Wat. Dam. Inj."? But abbreviations of any sort seem wholly uncalled for. There is plenty of space for the line "Watson on Damages," or "Watson on Personal Injuries," or "Damages for Personal Injuries."

The title on the back of the book is somewhat misleading. It places the emphasis on Damages, and indicates that the volume is specially devoted to the discussion of that topic. One has only to glance at the table of contents to discover that the book covers a much wider field. It is in fact a treatise on actions for personal injuries. Not only are the general principles of liability in such actions dealt with, quite freely, but questions of practice and procedure are discussed at length, while several chapters are devoted to the law of evidence applicable to actions for personal injuries. Less than half the volume is reserved for the consideration of the rules relating to the measure of damages. That space suffices, how-

ever, for ample treatment of the topic. Indeed, one or two of the chapters in this part contain information which is more curious than useful to the legal student. Of this sort is Chapter XXV, entitled "Illustrative Examples of Verdicts and Judgments Approved or Set Aside." The author frankly states that the comparison of the verdict, in a case at bar, with verdicts in other cases which have been approved or disapproved by other courts, is not very helpful to either party, and yet he fills twenty-five pages with these "illustrative examples of verdicts," ranging from \$15 to \$80,000.

Perhaps the most valuable feature of the work, especially to the practising lawyer, is the careful classification of citations. In all of the longer notes, the cases are arranged by States, so that the name of the jurisdiction at the head of each paragraph easily catches the eye. Among the chapters worthy of especial mention, is that which treats of "Injuries to Persons Engaged in Unlawful Acts." While we do not concur in all of his opinions, we have found the author's discussion of this topic both interesting and instructive.

THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW, with Copious Annotations. By John J. Crawford. New York: Baker, Voorhis & Company, 1902. pp. xxxiv, 173.

The text of the Negotiable Instruments Law, which is here reprinted, is that of the New York statute. It differs not only in section numbering but in language from the text of the same law in other States. These differences have been carefully pointed out by the editor, and, as a result, the book can be used in any of the seventeen jurisdictions which have adopted this piece of codification.

Mr. Crawford's experience as draftsman of the original act gives him a great advantage over all other annotators of the statute. Not only has he an abundance of well-digested material at hand, but he is able to indicate with authority the decisions and other sources from which the various provisions of the statute were drawn. His publishers are justified, therefore, in claiming that his annotations are something more than a mere digest and compilation of cases, bearing more or less directly upon the rules enunciated in the various sections.

In this second edition, the original notes have been amplified, and especial care appears to have been taken to cite leading cases upon all important topics from every State which has adopted the law. These citations are brought down nearly to the opening of the present year. The editor assures us that only about a half dozen cases have arisen under this statute, since its enactment in 1897, and that these are referred to in his annotations. Some of the sections have a dearth of notes. This is due, however, not to a lack of industry or learning on the part of the editor, but to a lack of material. For example, the seventeen sections of the statute, devoted to the acceptance and payment of bills for honor, do not lend themselves to annotation, simply because the